



Testimony in Support of
S.B. 276, AAC THE REGULATION OF WATER COMPANIES
And
H.B. 5324, AAR ELECTRIC DISTRIBUTION COMPANIES TO PROVIDE
GENERATION INFORMATION TO CUSTOMERS WITH RESIDENTIAL
PHOTOVOLTAIC SOLAR SYSTEMS.

Energy and Technology Committee

March 8, 2022

AARP is a nonpartisan, social mission organization that advocates for individuals age 50 and older. We have a membership of 38 million nationwide and approximately 600,000 in Connecticut. We advocate at the state and federal level for the issues that matter most to older adults and their families.

Senate Bill 276

This bill (1) exempts loans that do not exceed five per cent of a water company's long-term debt from the formal Public Utilities Regulatory Authority review process (2) increases the length of a rate case for water companies, (3) adjusts cost-sharing mechanisms for water company overearnings, such that not less than eighty per cent of such overearnings are credited to ratepayers; and (4) requires rate cases every four years for large water companies (those with more than 75,000 customers).

AARP believes that water policies should ensure affordable water for everyone. Policymakers should use rate cases to adopt water rates for private utilities to ensure that rates are just, reasonable, and affordable.

This bill ensures that at least 80 percent of overearnings is flowed through to ratepayers. (Presently, the rate case requirement applies to large electric and gas companies only.) We take no position on the loan exemption.

House Bill 5324

This bill requires electric distribution companies to provide solar customers the total generation of their systems and the amount of excess power sold to the utility in each billing period.

AARP believe policymakers should develop and support affordable and reliable sustainable energy policies as they address climate change and weather-related events. All policies should be transparent, consistent, and equitable.

We support HB 5324 because it promotes transparency in billing. It is important for consumers to understand the billing mechanics and the amount of solar energy sold to utilities. The bill sets forth straightforward, consumer-friendly requirements.

AARP appreciates the opportunity to testify. If you have any questions, please feel to contact me at 860-548-3165 or jerlingheuser@aarp.org.